

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congressman Jim Costa, D-Fresno, spoke today on the House floor calling for the passage of H.R. 3, The Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act of 2007. Costa's remarks, as prepared for delivery, follow:

“Mr. Speaker: I rise to speak in support of H.R. 3, which would expand stem cell research.

“The narrow view of stem cell research espoused by the Administration places unrealistic limitations on the medical research capabilities of this nation.

“The Administration's position on this critical issue leaves patients across America without the hope that they can be cured of the effects of a host of medical conditions including, but not limited to Parkinson's and Alzheimer's diseases and spinal cord injuries.

“The conditions may be curable through stem cell research. But we will only find cures if Congress acts to allow full fledged research to take place.

“We owe it to the afflicted and their families to put forth our best effort to find cures for these debilitating medical conditions.

“I urge the House to put political posturing aside and give hope to patients and their families by passing H.R. 3.”

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